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Senator Allen to tour district and UP via snowmobile

Lansing – State Sen. Jason Allen of Traverse City plans to snowmobile through parts of the 37th Senate District and portions of the Upper Peninsula next month.

"Snowmobiling is a proud tradition in northern Michigan," Allen said. "It is not only a recreational way to experience Michigan's beauty, but a very practical way to get around in the winter."

Beginning and ending in Sault Ste. Marie, the tour kicks off Monday, Jan. 5, 2004 and spans more than 1,000 miles before wrapping up Saturday, Jan. 10. Throughout the week, Allen and fellow legislators will visit Brimley, Raco, Paradise, Tahquamenon and Trout Lake. Other stops on the trip include Deerton, Marquette, Three Lakes and Copper Harbor.

Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor, Allen will witness firsthand the major economic impact snowmobiling and tourism have on northern Michigan. Joining Allen will be Speaker of the House Rick Johnson of LeRoy and state Rep. Tom Casperson of Escanaba.

"I am really looking forward to this tour," Allen said. "Michigan is a 'Winter Wonderland' and this tour will provide a great way to experience all that the Upper Peninsula has to offer."

The following week, Jan. 11-17, 2004, marks Snowmobile Safety Week. Michigan has more than 6,000 miles of groomed trails offering exciting terrain of forest and field to both residents and visitors. With almost 300,000 registered snowmobiles, safe and responsible driving is essential for every enthusiast on a sled.